Suggestions from Indian T.V. Manufacturing Association

463. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH:

DR. (SMT.) SAROJINI MAHISHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian T.V. Manufacturers Association has suggested to allow broadbanding in consumer electronics industry to achieve economies of scales;

(b) what is the present policy of Government and whether broadbanding is restricted only to few units. If so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether manufacture of components is limited for captive use only and whether physical controls and phased manufacturing programme eliminate competitiveness in the industry. If so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) The broad-banding for consumer electronic products is permitted in following two categories:—

(1) Entertainment Audio Produces covering radio receivers, tape recorders, record players, record chargers, amplifiers, excluding those reserved for small scale and their combination with or without digital clocks.

(2) Entertainment Video Products covering B & W TV receivers, Colour TV receivers and their combination with radio, tape recorder, digital clock but excluding VCR|VCP.

The above broadbanding is applicable to all units.

(c) No, Sir.

District Level Planning

464. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to initiate District level planning and demarcate specific areas for planning at that level, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the concept will augment financial liabilities to the Panchayat Institutions and if so, what is Government's decision with regard to sanctioning more finance to Panchayat Samitis at block or district level; and

(c) whether an experiment has been initiated in some States if so, the details thereof and whether the same have proved successful?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) District level planning exercise already going on in several States, is proposed to be strengthened and its coverage enlarged so that by the time Eighth Plan is formulated it would be possible to base it also, *inter-alia* on District level plans. A tentative list of programmes in various sectors of District Plan has been suggested by the Working Group on District Planning, which has been recommended to the States. The list covers areas like Agriculture, Rural Development, Animal Husbandry, Forests, Fisheries Minor Irrigation, Drinking Water, Handloom etc.

(b) and (c) Financial devolution and vesting of avenues for raising resources is a part of the effort to promote District level planning. States have also been urged to provide some funds of united' nature to be used in the discretion at the local level; for planning purposes. Already united funds are being provided to districts in several States. This encouraging local initiative in planning.